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The FREEMASON

AND THE FEZ . . .

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Jan-7-4

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The FREEMASON AND THE FEZ.

In the Interests of Freemasonry and the Concordant Orders of Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota.

VOLUME V. CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, MARCH, 1897. NUMBER 3

Harrison Dingman.

IMPERIAL POTENTATE FOR NORTH AMERICA.

HARRISON DINGMAN,

OUR IMPERIAL POTENTATE.

The gentleman whose handsome features adorn our first page this month is the present reigning Imperial Potentate of the Imperial Council of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, for North America. Harrison Dingman was born in Hudson, Columbia county, N. Y. September 5th, 1840. By profession he is a Solicitor for Government Claims. His Masonic career, began in New Jerusalem Lodge, No. 9, Washington, D. C., in which Lodge he was initiated on June, 24, 1880; passed July 22, and raised August 12, of the same year. He has been exalted as a Royal Arch Mason, the event having transpired on June 1, 1881. He has taken the Council Degrees and is a P. T. I. M. He was Knighted in Washington Commandery, No. 1, of Washington, D. C. on March 19, 1883. He is also a Scottish Rite Mason, and a member of Albert Pike Consistory, No. 1 of his home City.

Of course he is a Noble of the Mystic Shrine.

His official career may be summed up in the statement that he has been Master of his Lodge, (1884) High Priest of his Chapter, (1886) Thrice Illustrious Master of the Council, Commander of his Commandery, (1891-2) two terms. His Grand Lodge service covers, Grand Marshall; J. and S. Grand Warden; Deputy Grand Master, and in 1889, he was chosen to the high position of Grand Master of his Grand Lodge. His Grand Chapter service shows that he has filled all the offices in line except that of G. M. 3d V, and Grand King. In 1893, his companions chose him as their Grand High Priest As a Shriner, he began his transition across the hot sands of the desert in Almas Temple, of Washington, on April 30, 1888. He has filled the offices of High Priest and Prophet, (1891-92) and has been the Potentate for four years, 1893-6. He was elected Imperial Chief Rabban, at Nantasket in 1895, and Imperial Potentate, at Cleveland, Ohio, June 23, 1896.

During the portion of his time as Imperial Potentate already past, he has visited Zunnah, Ziyara, Oriental, Boumi, Almas, Oasis, Aleppo, Rajah, Pyramid, Lu Lu, Kora, Mt. Sinai, Ismailia, Damascus, and others, officially. His official acts also include the institution of Sphinx Temple, Hartford, Conn., under Charter, and officially inspected Beni-Kedem, Charleston, W. Va., and Alee, Savannah, Ga., both under dispensation. We have heard of his continued activity as he has visited Moslem, Saladin, and Syrian temples.

Mr. Dingman is one of those representative Masons, who, though he has all the additional degrees, has not neglected his duty or ceased in his devotion to the Ancient Institution. He is deservedly popular in all the bodies.

THE LODGES.

IN NEBRASKA.

Their demit law is the same as ours, except that "Any affiliated Mason desiring to join another lodge shall be entitled to a certificate of his standing in his own lodge, and upon such certificate shall be entitled to apply for membership in any other lodge, upon such election a certificate thereof shall be forwarded to the former lodge, and upon its receipt by the lodge issuing said certificate, said lodge shall forthwith issue a demit to such brother and forward same to the lodge electing such brother to membership; providing always, that all dues shall have been paid to date of issuing such demit."

Some of the youngest lodges are making wonderful growths.

Abner Lodge, No. 535, Lone Tree, is having fair progress, and has just had a two days school under Bro. Van Saun.

A suggestion that has come to us in the last few days, is "that the Charities of Masonry in Iowa, should be dispensed through the Chapters of the Eastern Star, and that instead of heaping up a reserve fund for future generations we should dispense to the needy as we have calls, using the above agencies as our almoners."

It has been ascertained by the Grand Secretary of Iowa, that fully one-half of the Lodges in this jurisdiction have failed to keep on file any of the three copies of the Proceedings sent to them each year. This is to be regretted, as there are now copies of the Annals so rare that the expense of a re-print is the only hope of securing them.

Some Iowa lodges have given three receipts for copies of the Code in the last two years and still keep calling for more. Somebody is to blame for this.

The Custodian was compelled to cancel his school at Kalona, on account of the sickness of a number of the Brethren.

We count it a privilege to publish each month a letter from the Grand Custodian, in which his round of appointments is given, and corrected each month.

A number of the members of Trojan Lodge, 548, paid a visit to Crescent Lodge, 25, in Cedar Rapids one evening in February. The time was well spent. Work in the third.

We often doubt the propriety of a too ardent hunt after timber to suspend for N. P. D. at least let the most careful investigation precede the action, for oftentimes a brother may have temporary embarrassments which he will not tell to any one, yet we do not wish to shield the negligent from their fate.

A short visit with the Grand Master was enjoyed on Feb. 26. He is well and says that the number of questions usually asked of the Grand Master, has fallen off nearly one-half in his second year of service.

The preparations for the coming Grand Communication at Oskaloosa; are in full swing, and if we are not much mistaken this old town will show a capacity for entertainment that has not yet been surpassed.

We wish to announce that we can supply any of the necessary blanks at short notice and at the lowest market prices. This applies to all the different bodies in the State.

THE GRAND CUSTODIAN.

We have asked permission to give a short statement of the facts in connection with the work of our Visiting Custodian. Of course those who have access to and who read the Proceedings need no prompting as to the matter, they will find them there but others have frequently expressed opinions that have led us to request the permission of the Custodian to say these few things about his work. The actual amount paid to him for his school work, is $2.50 per day and hotel. This $2.50 per day is not for the time he is compelled to spend en-route, nor has he any mileage allowance to help him out. His experience at Kalona is fair illustration of the facts. Here owing to sickness in the Lodge the School was postponed, and the Custodian compelled to return home to Cedar Falls, or be at larger expense to wait till his next appointment came due. We need say no more than that the sum thus paid is not, and has not been a means of profit to Brother Van Saun at any time in his career as Custodian of the work.

The question of the manner of voting, where the ballot is spread upon the altar is asked and we give the answer as received from the proper authority—Give the S. then take up and deposit the ballot.

The "New Year's day" contributions to the Masonic Home of Pennsylvania amounted to $6,299,93. More to follow. —*The Voice of Masonry.*

GRAND CUSTODIAN'S LETTER.

We aim to keep standing the regular appointments of the Grand Custodian, Brother Geo. B. Van Saun, and we shall have his corrections each month.

CEDAR FALLS, IA., Mar. 6, 1897.

Dear Brother Geiger:

Since our meeting together at Lone Tree, I have visited Keota, Hedrick and Iowa City as per appointments previously made, and have been gratified at the attendance of the brethren at each of those places. I regretted exceedingly that you could not carry out your promise to have met me at Iowa City, as Grand Master Ball certainly expected you—well we did have a good attendance and a royal good time—would have been still better with you on hand with us. I start for Manchester, Monday morning the 8th inst. and trust I may see you there. My routes for the future as now made out are as follows:

Manchester—March 8th and 9th.
Strawberry Point—March 10th and 11th.
Maynard—March 12th and 13th.
Elgin—March 15th and 16th.
New Hartford—March 19th and 20th.
Williams—March 23d and 24th.
Sheldon—March 25th, 26th and 27th.
Dunlap—March 29th and 30th.
Parkersburg—April 5th and 6th.
Hampton—April 7th.
Marion—April 12th and 13th.
Ottumwa—April 14th, 15th and 16th.

Calls made but no time given as yet—Spring Hill, Lime Springs, Maxwell, Traer, Fontanelle, Cresco, Frank Pierce and Blanchard.

Calls for Adair, Moulton and Kalona have been cancelled for good and satisfactory reasons. Probably one more letter will complete my appointments for the present Masonic year.

Fraternally yours,
GEO. B. VAN SAUN,
Visiting Custodian.

THE SCOTTISH RITE.

From the valley of Des Moines comes the announcement that in obedience to the action of the Supreme Council the annual election of officers in the several bodies will be held as follows:

Tabernacle Lodge of Perfection, No. 3, (Third day of Adar) Friday, February 5th.

Emmanuel Chapter Rose Croix, No. 3, (Thursday after Easter) Thursday, April 22d.

Cyrus Council Knights Kadosh, No. 3, (Easter Monday) Monday, April 19th.

Des Moines Consistory No. 3, S. P. R. S. (St. John's Day) Monday, December 27th.

Mt. Monah Lodge of Perfection No. 1, Omaha, Neb. elected the following officers February 5, 1897:

Louis Eugene Wettling, 32° K. C. C. H. Ven. Master; Claude Loraine Talbot, 32° K. C. C. H. Sen. Warden; Isaac Rollin Andrews, 32° Jun. Warden; Rufus Sheetz Parker, 18° Orator; Franklin Chase Tym, 32° Almoner; Lyman Eugene Ware, 32° K. C. C. H. Secretary; Gustave Anderson, 32° K. C. C. H. Treasurer.

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

Leonidas Pyrrhus Funkhouser, 32° Master of Cer.; Matthew Harris Collins, 32° Expert; Snelling Roper Crickmore, 32° Asst. Expert; John Campbell Buchanan, 32° Capt. of the Gd.; Henry Newell, 33° Tiler.

VALLEY OF DES MOINES.

The Thirteenth special Reunion and Convention of the four co-ordinate Bodies of the Valley of Des Moines, occurred January 26-29th.

The "Come and Visit" excellent invitation and promise of comfort and enjoyment was signed by Ill. Brothers Geo. Fairburn, Commander in Chief; John C. Macy, Preceptor; William A. Park, Wise Master; Darius F. Chandler, Venerable Master, and R. M. J. Coleman, Sec. and Registrar.

Tabernacle Lodge of Perfection conferred the 4th to 14th Degrees, inclusive, Tuesday, 26th. Emmanuel Chapter, Rose Croix, on Wednesday, 27th, illustrated the grades, 15th to 18th, inclusive. Cyrus Council Knights of Kadosh conferred the Orders, 19th to 30th, inclusive, on Thursday the 28th. Des Moines Consistory on Friday the 29th conferred the 31st and 32d Degrees. A banquet closed the reunion on Friday night. We observe the membership exceeded 200 at the close of 1896. With the large class at the recent Convention makes the Bodies exceptionally strong. —*The Constellation.*

THE ROYAL ARCH.

The Grand High Priest Companion Max Beehler informs us that the Chapters of his Jurisdiction are "booming."

The usual silence throughout the state as to the carrying out of the law in regard to working the Council Degrees continues, notwithstanding the promises that there would be work done in the S. V. Alas, Poor Hiram!

THE COUNCIL

We contend that if the Council is not of sufficient value to the companions throughout the state of Iowa, to work them, and in separate Councils, then THEY SHOULD BE DROPPED and the companions left free to apply to the Geneıal Grand Council for relief. We don't want this privilege while the Chapters pretend to control the degrees. Discussion is invited through this Journal.

This department promises to supply us with some interesting reading matter. Next month we shall have something further to say. This month we present the action as taken by Hiram Chapter No. 6, Oskaloosa.

HIRAM CHAPTER, No. 6,

R. A. M.

Oskaloosa, Ia., Feb. 1, 1897.

Dear Sir and Companion:

Kindly have the enclosed Memorial brought before the first regular convocation of your Chapter, and report to the undersigned, under seal, such action as your Chapter may take, for or against the resolution. Such action to be reported to the Grand Chapter of R. A. M., at the Annual Convocation, July 22d, 1897.

Fraternally yours,

G. N. BEECHLER,
Chrm. of Com.

HIRAM CHAPTER, No. 6,

ROYAL ARCH MASONS, OSKALOOSA, IOWA.

RESOLUTION.

Be it Resolved, By Hiram Chapter, No. 6, R. A. M., Oskaloosa, Iowa, "That it is the sense of this Chapter that the degrees "Royal and Select Masters," designated as Council Degrees, be divorced from the Chapter, and the Council as an independent body be again restored, both in subordinate Council and a Grand Council. That the Chapters, Royal Arch Masons of the State of Iowa, be invited to co-operate with us (or Hiram Chapter), in presenting and urging it on the Grand Chapter of Iowa, such legislation as may be necessary to accomplish this purpose."

The foregoing resolution was, at the regular Convocation of said Chapter, held Dec. 16, A. D. 1896, unanimously adopted.

F. E. SMITH, Secretary.

HIRAM CHAPTER, No. 6,

ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

Oskaloosa, Iowa, March 2, 1897.

Dear Sir and Companion:

Since mailing resolution from Hiram Chapter, we have received numbers of letters asking information on different points; we therefore take the liberty of addressing you again. "Our reasons for asking that Cryptic Masonry should be separated from Capitular." Turn to pages 149 and 150 of the report of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, 1896, there we believe you will find every point fully covered. Also pages xxix and xxx, report of Fraternal Correspondence, and read Companion Ercenbrack's comments on Louisiana Report.

By such a separation as proposed and re-establishment of a Grand Council in Iowa, under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Council of the United States, we will be enabled to affiliate with over thirty out of the forty Grand Jurisdictions of the United States, and not be dubbed "CLANDESTINE" by every other State in the union excepting Louisiana, Idaho and a few other minor jurisdictions.

You are doubtless aware that no Iowa Royal and Select Master is permitted to enter any Council of our sister States of Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, or Missouri; or any other State holding allegiance to the General Grand Council of the United States.

The question is, Shall we join the majority, or remain with the insignificant minority,, tainted with the stigma of clandestinism. Fraternally yours,

G. N. BEECHLER,
R. C. HOFFMAN, Com.

THE COMMANDERIES.

From the *Argus* of Feb. 23, we glean the information that Everts Commandery conferred the order of the Red Cross upon 21 Companions from Aledo, the work began early in the afternoon, and at 7 o'clock two hundred and twenty-five Knights and ladies sat down to a splendid banquet. Various toasts and eloqent responses were given, music, readings and recitations followed. The evening ended with dancing. The next night the Order of the Temple was conferred upon several of the above candidates.

THE EASTERN STAR.

The good work still goes on.

The Chapters of Iowa, and the neighboring States are not a draw-back to the Lodges, but an important help.

We have received a large number of responses to our proposition to devote a portion of our time for the next ninety days to the welfare of the Chapters.

The Grand Matron is still on the go, instituting Chapters in various parts of the State. See the full list elsewhere in this number.

If all who are entrusted with official duties were to set about pushing the work of our Order, it would place us in advance of any of our near neighbors and well up to where we belong.

This Journal is interested in hearing from the Deputies of the Grand Matron, as to there Inspections. The readers of this department are interested in the work.

FERN LEAF CHAPTER

We were privileged to attend an evening of most pleasant exercises at Lone Tree, the home of the above named Chapter. The Lodge had been holding a school, and the work of the two days was wound up with a delightful supper, served in the Lodge and Chapter room. It was on the 24th of February and a crisp cold night, but the attendance was all the rooms would hold. Music, vocal and instrumental, addresses, recitations, and among the company we found that hearty fellowship that should always charactize the assembling of the Masonic families. The three clergymen present added materialy to the enjoyment of the evening. The work of this young Chapter is entrusted to willing and efficient hands, and we shall not be surprised to hear of some of the best results from this town. We are of the opinion that there should be a live Chapter of the Eastern Star in the home of each Blue Lodge in this Jurisdiction.

Cedar Chapter, 184, installed their Worthy Matron, (detained by sickness) and other uninstalled officers, Feb. 22.

We want Agents in every Masonic community. Best commission paid. Send for sample copies.

THE MYSTIC SHRINE.

Zuhrah, worked March 5th.

The pilgrims are still moving toward Mecca.

Tangier, Omaha, had cards and refreshments after their regular meeting, February 26th.

Here is Syrian with the "Judge" and "Puck" style of notice, elaborate and high colored. Quite taking.

The hard times do not seem to stop the enthusiasm of the "poor sons of the desert," the caravans keep crossing the desert.

The Young Beni Kedem, of Charleston, W. Va., is out with a Ramadan notice for March 2d which shows this U. D. Temple to be a mover.

The notices for meetings among the Temples for the past month display the varieties of taste and the ingenuity of the publishers of "Lodge Varieties."

Then, here is a reminder of the Rev. Noble Thomas Uzzell's Great rabbit hunt for the benefit of the Denver poor, in the proverbial "foot" tied to an El-Jebel notice. A charm to cure the blues. Were we nearer we'd be on hand.

Moila, St. Jo., Mo., celebrated February 22, with a Charity Ball. While Moolah of St. Louis, "didn't do a thing" to a class of candidates on the 17th of the same month. What an expose of our secret work Berry put out in his last half-tone-picture-notice!

The portrait of our Imperial Potentate graces the front page of this issue of our Magazine. Harrison is all right. He is also the big boy among the "Kids" an organization that took its wonderful growth from its start at the "Wayside" Clubhouse in Cleveland last year.

Death has entered the ranks of El-Kahir Temple, and we mourn the departure of Noble Milton Shoemaker, of Sioux City, who died February 21, 1897. His body was taken to Clarence for interment. An Escort of Templars accompanied the funeral from his home to the place of burial. Noble Joseph Bennet, of Waterloo is also one whose death we mourn. He died Dec. 21, 1896.

Imperial Ben of Aleppo gives us a combination of all the cuts on earth in his notice for March 30.

Noble J. H. Redmon, sends us the rich menu he enjoyed as a visitor with Morocco Temple Jan. 22, 1897.

UNPOPULAR AND LESS THAN FAIR.

When the last annual meeting of the Imperial Council anacted a rule to require a certificate bearing the "viseure" of its officers, as well as the signature of the Recorder of the local Temple to which a Noble belonged, before he would be admitted to any Temple outside his own, it did a good thing; so far, so good; but when it made the price of those Certificates ten cents apiece to the Temples, and enacted a clause, which by some mistake went out as mandatory to charge the Nobles, wanting them, Fifty Cents for the same, then the thing went off! We are not kicking at the mere pittance of Half a Dollar, but at the unfairness of making the class that now pays up promptly, pay a premium on the privilege of being, and keeping square upon our books. Then, we are voicing the opinion of thousands of the Nobility when we say that the Imperial Council should not go into a business which adds to the difficulty of getting the Nobles to pay up and keep up. The price of the Certificates would amply pay for the additional time it takes the Imperial Recorder to send them out, at One Cent Apiece, and this is no more than just when it is understood that the Temples already pay into the Imperial Treasury, $2, on each Noble Created, and a further annual tax of Ten Cents on each Noble in the Temple, which sum up to the present has been ample to defray all the legitimate expenses of the Imperial Body. It will be no more than fair to the Order, for the coming annual meeting of the Imperial Council to readjust that scale of prices. If the present unwieldly Certificate is too expensive, cut it down to half its present size. The boys grumble at its whole appearance, and it would be a good thing to put on an entire new face, one that out in these wilds, would cost altogether little enough to put them in the hands of the Nobles as a premium on promptness in paying up their dues.

THE FREEMASON AND THE FEZ.

Published Monthly

In the interest of Freemasonry in Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, the concordant Orders, and the Mystic Shrine in North America.

JOHN WESTLEY GEIGER, K T., 32°, EDITOR.

P. O. Drawer E, Marion, Iowa, for all business and exchanges.

Entered in the postoffice at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, as second class mail matter.

TERMS:—$1.00 per year. Single copies 10 cents. Subscribers failing to receive any number will please notify us by postal card at once.

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Address all correspondence to
JOHN WESTLEY GEIGER, Editor.
Drawer E. Marion, Iowa.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, MARCH, 1897.

GRAND GATHERINGS.

GRAND LODGES MEET.

Iowa Oskaloosa. June 2, 1897.

GEO. W. BALL.....Iowa City.....GRAND MASTER
T. S. Parvin.....Cedar Rapids.....Grand Secretary

Nebraska, Lincoln, June 16, 1897.

HENRY H. WILSON....Lincoln.....GRAND MASTER
Wm. R Bowen.....Omaha.....Grand Secretary

South Dakota, Mitchell, June 8, 1897.

JAMES LEWIS.....Canton.....GRAND MASTER
Geo. A. Pettigrew.....Flandreau.....Grand Secretary

CONVOCATIONS, R. A. M.

General Grand (U. S.) Baltimore, Md., Oct. 12, 1897.
Iowa, Spirit Lake, July 22 1897.

MAX. BEEHLER....Manchester..GRAND HIGH PRIEST
Alf Wingate.....Des Moines.....Grand Secretary

Nebraska, Omaha, Dec. 17, 1897.

.....GRAND HIGH PRIEST
George J. Spohn .....Grand Secretary

South Dakota, Mitchell, June 10, 1897.

GEO. V. AYERS.....Deadwood..GRAND HIGH PRIEST
Geo. A. Pettigrew.....Flandreau.....Grand Secretary

CONCLAVES K. T.

Grand Encampment, Pittsburg, Pa., Oct. 1898.
Iowa Grand, Templar Park, July 12, 1897.

T. R. ERCANBRACK...Anamosa..GRAND COMMANDER
Alf. Wingate..... Des Moines.....Grand Recorder

Nebraska, Lincoln, April 29, 1897.

.....GRAND COMMANDER
Wm. R. Bowen.....Omaha.....Grand Recorder

South Dakota, Mitchell, June 11, 1897.

J. J. CASSELMAN.....Huron...GRAND COMMANDER
Geo. A. Pettigrew.....Flandreau.....Grand Recorder

GRAND CHAPTERS O. E. S.

General Grand (U. S.) 1898.
Iowa, Cherokee, Oct. 27, 1897.

MRS. DELIA B. MEREDITH..Newton..GRAND MATRON
John Westley Geiger....Marion.....Grand Patron
Mrs. Maria Jackson...Council Bluffs.....Grand Recorder

Nebraska, Omaha, June 22, 1897.

MRS. HELEN H. STIRES..Columbus..GRAND MATRON
Rev. A. G. Pinkham....Grand Island.....Grand Patron
Dr. Eleanor Dailey.....Omaha.....Grand Secretary

South Dakota, Sioux Falls, May 25, 1897.

MRS. W. H. RODDLE..Brookings.....GRAND MATRON
M. G. Carlisle.....De Smet.....Grand Patron
Mrs. A. M. McCallister..Madison.....Grand Secretary

THE MYSTIC SHRINE.

Imperial Council, Detroit, Mich., June 8-9, 1897.
El-Kahir Temple, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

AUSTIN D. BROWN....Manchester.....POTENTATE
John Westley Geiger.....Marion.....Recorder

Kaaba Temple, Davenport, Iowa.
GEO. F. WHITE.....Davenport.....POTENTATE
C. J. Brown.....Davenport.....Recorder

Tangier Temple, Omaha, Nebraska.
H. HARDY.....Omaha.....POTENTATE
Louis E. Wettling.....Box 523, Omaha.....Recorder

Sesostris Temple, Lincoln, Nebraska.
DEF. E GREEN.....Lincoln.....POTENTATE
Jno. A. Ames..... (Box 1440) Lincoln.....Recorder

El Riad Temple, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.
A. B. KITTEREDGE.. Sioux Falls.....POTENTATE
Eugene Saenger.....Sioux Falls.....Recorder

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The cause we aim to aid is worthy of support.

The character and contents will improve as we get the hearing we need to make THE FREEMASON a success.

Twenty-five thousand Master Masons in Iowa alone. Give us one-in-five and we'll show you a Journal to be proud of.

Perhaps some of us have expected too much from the Institution. It teaches morality—it cannot impart it to anyone.

The report of the special committee on the Law of Demits is before us. Attend your lodge and hear it read.

Our columns are open to discussion on the topics submitted to the lodges by the above committee's report. Ventilation will do it good.

We call attention to our offer to provide a free trip to the next Triennial Conclave at Pittsburg on another page.

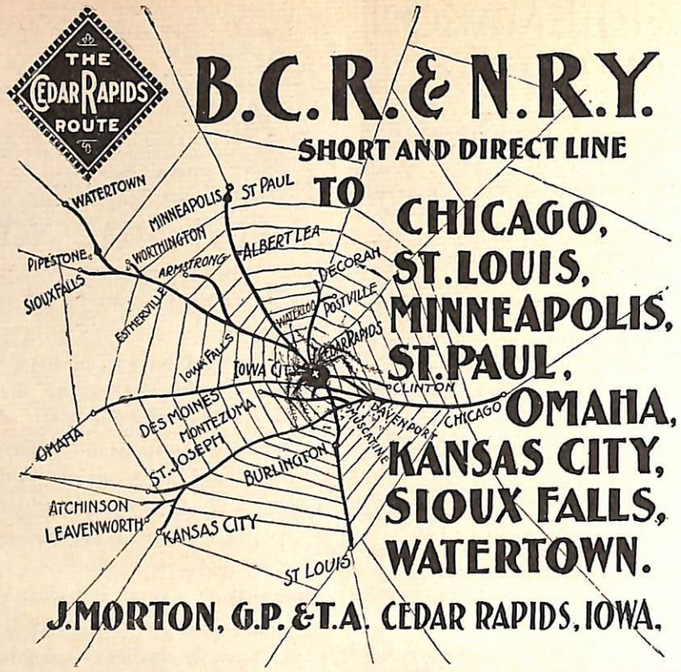
The companions of Hiram Chapter, No. 6, Oskaloosa, are coming before the Royal Arch Masons for their opinions about the Council Degrees, and it deserves serious thought and attention. If the companions do not want to allow the separation and (the degrees are not worked) prefer to be quits, let them drop them entirely, then we can go outside the state and get them, or can invite the General Grand Chapter to give us Councils where they are wanted.

MASONIC LECTURES.

Brother Rev. F. C. Overbaugh, of Greene, Iowa, has been nnfortunate by illness, and has need of our kind encouragement. He is a capable lecturer, and has a good lecture on "Freemasonry and the Bible" which he wishes to deliver for the Lodges in Iowa. Give him a call.

Mar. t. f.

Wyoming made a net gain of 47 last year; total membership 1023 in 15 lodges.



B.C.R.&N.R.Y.

SHORT AND DIRECT LINE

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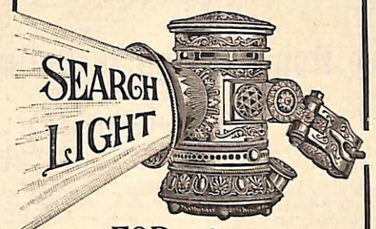

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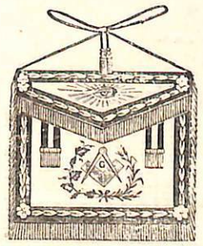

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